

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /046 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN/CR:MMBOVA:RP

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED RADIO SHOW ON VESCO

1. MR. MICHAEL RAIMO, WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS THE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER OF A NEW YORK FIRM KNOWN AS MEDIA ASSOCIATES, TELEPHONED THE DEPARTMENT ON NOVEMBER 3 TO ASK IF WE COULD PUT HIM IN CONTACT WITH ROBERT VESCO. MR. RAIMO EXPLAINED THAT HIS FIRM WAS INTERESTED IN DOING A RADIO SHOW ON VESCO WHICH WOULD BE BROADCAST OVER 57 STATIONS. HE WANTS TO INCLUDE AN INTERVIEW WITH VESCO IN THE PROGRAM AND MAY PERSONALLY GO TO COSTA RICA TO CONDUCT IT.

2. THE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD NOT APPEAR APPROPRIATE FOR THE USG TO ARRANGE AN INTRODUCTION AND THAT VESCO WAS CONSIDERED TO BE A FUGITIVE FROM US JUSTICE. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT SINCE VESCO MAINTAINED TWO RESIDENCES IN COSTA RICA, ONE IN THE SUBURBS OF SAN JOSE, HE COULD PROBABLY REACH HIM THROUGH INFORMATION AND THE INTERNATIONAL OPERATOR. IT WAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE COSTA RICAN NEWSPAPER, EXCELSIOR, WHICH HAS RUN CONSIDERABLE COVERAGE OF VESCO, MIGHT BE ABLE TO ARRANGE CONTACT.

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3. MR. RAIMO AGREED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S SUGGESTION THAT HE DROP BY THE EMBASSY AND, AS A COURTESY, INTRODUCE HIMSELF TO THE AMBASSADOR OR THE PAO SHOULD HE DECIDE TO GO TO COSTA RICA FOR THE INTERVIEW. MR. RAIMO VOLUNTEERED TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT WITH A TRANSCRIPT OF HIS SHOW.

4. COMMENT: WHILE MEDIA ASSOCIATES IS UNKNOWN TO ARA/PAF WE HAVE NO REASON TO QUESTION MR. RAIMO'S BONA FIDES. KISSINGER

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To: SAN JOSE
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